RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

DECEMBER 1986 – JANUARY 1987

232 Ogden Avenue – Jersey City, N.J. 07307 – (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL.

Happy Holidays

RNA ADOPTS CONSTITUTION

A proposal to adopt the constitution as written was unanimously voted "yes" by the members present at the November meeting. Still to be ironed out are the actual by-laws governing the operation of the association , but at least with an accredited constitution to back up the organization, we have a substantial base from which to operate.

With the unavoidable absence of R.N.A. chairman Vito Brunetti, and the vice chairman, Bob Lewis, on a current leave-of-absence, the meeting was chaired by the secretary, Maria Tuzzo ably assisted by Rich LaPosta treasurer and several of the members.

Old business was dealt with first i.e; R.N.A.'s food drive. The members voted to give the food collected to the Salvation Army. Maria Tuzzo agreed to contact the Salvation Army and see to it that the delivery was made.

Final word on the fall party for residents of the Harborview Health Care Center, was given to all those who have volunteered to serve as our representatives. Mrs. Tuzzo and Jack Rea are coordinating the event.

An old issue still unresolved is Mountain Rd. George Graul, a highly vocal R.N.A member, raised the question of when we would see some tangible results of all the meetings and discussions we have had on this subject. George is an affirmative action person, and he seems to express the opinion of many members. We will make a sincere effort to invite a city engineer to a future meeting for some direct answers to many questions.

The constitution, which was expected to take up the most time, was discussed and voted on with prompt dispatch.

The meeting was ajourned and the membership enjoyed refreshments provided by Rose Scalzo (homemade blueberry coffee cake) J Allegretto (a Thanksgiving cake) and Mrs. Marie Tuzzo (coffee).

These delicious refreshments are just some of the benefits to be enjoyed when you attend the R.N.A. meetings. To find out what the others are, join us next month on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 pm at the Harborview Health Care Center.

Secretary
Maria E. Tuzzo

PS. At the December meeting we will celebrate the members birthdays that occur July through December.

PPS. My personal thanks to everyone for making my first chairing job so pleasant and easy.

NOTICE

This Newsletter is a combined December and January issue. There will be no Newsletter mailed in January. The next mailing will be February 1987.

Please make note that the General meeting will be held, as usual, on the second Tuesday of January at the Harborview Health Care Center at 7:30 PM.

This is the only notice you will get concerning the January meeting, keep it handy as a reminder to attend that meeting.

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS ???

Santa Claus? Gifts? Family reunions? Caroling? Maybe it's shopping and crowds, snow. Baking, cooking, rush, rush, busy, busy, busy.

Wait! Stop! Hold it!!!

Christmas is prophetic pronouncements, angelic announcements and personal meditation on the birth of God incarnate, to a virgin mother, in a stable, in the Roman province of Judea in Palestine almost 2,000 years ago.

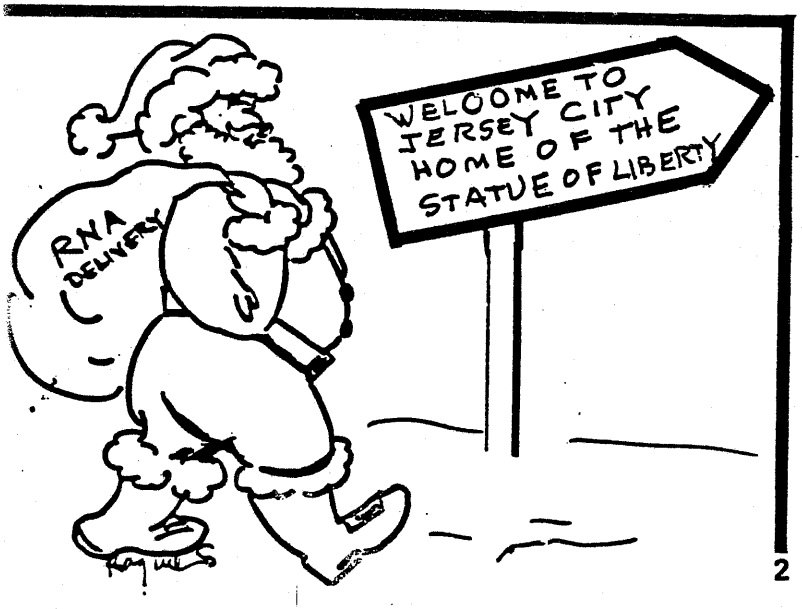
Prophetic Pronouncement - Isiah 9:6
"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Angelic Announcement - Luke 2:8-14
"Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will toward men!'"

Personal Meditation - John 3:16-19
"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God".
Perhaps the question should be: What does Christmas mean:

We in the United States have lost sight of the true meaning of Christmas. We're caught up in the commercialism, family traditions and the general business the season seems to demand. I don't say these are wrong necessarily, but I do think our priorities are a bit messed up. Christmas is Jesus Christ, whether or not He was actually born on the date in question is inconsequential, the fact is, He was born. Think of it, the eternal, almighty, all knowing, ever present God took on Himself the form of man. He didn't do this for His benefit, but for ours as the angels said to the shepherds, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour". He walked this earth for approximately 35 years, the last three of which were His public ministry of preaching, teaching and performing the miracles that proved His claims of Diety. When the time was right, He gave up His life on a Roman cross for us, but He didn't stay dead, He rose from the dead to prove again who He was and that He had paid the full penalty that God requires for sin. You see, Christmas points us to Easter. Jesus Christ came into the world to die for you and me so that we can have a personal relationship with God.

So this Christmas season, rethink your priorities, take time out to reflect on who that baby in the



(Continued on page 3)

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS (Continued)

manger was, and what he did for you. Enjoy Christmas and all it's commercialism and crazyness, in all it's traditions of family and home, but don't forget that without Jesus there would be no CHRISTmas.

Bob Lewis

MY LITTLE PEOPLE

When I began collecting dolls with serious intent I never realized that I would become so engrossed in the whole world of miniature people.

I make it a point to name each doll, and always use that name when I'm showing the doll or when I'm dressing it for a particular holiday. So in a sense my dolls, to me, are little people. Their names were chosen to compliment their face and what I perceive as their personality. Believe it or not dolls do have a sort of charm. It is why they do or do not appeal to you. A case in point, might be the Cabbage Patch Dolls. Some people see them as ugly and others see them as really adorable. All dolls have this ability. I always look at a doll's face before I buy it. If that face "says something" to me then I make that doll a part of my collection, and give it a name that suits it.

I guess that the appeal of each doll can also be attributed to the memories or percepticns we retain of people we've met or seen over the years. For instance, I have a doll with curly hair, and rosey cheeks that was molded with a smile that comes through in her eyes as well as on her lips. Her name is Bonnie. I can remember working with a girl who had the same sunny disposition that my doll shows and her name was, you guessed it, Bonnie.

You can now see why, for me, my dolls are like small people. They are an infectious habit. I am always searching out new sources for dolls, and new ways to display each of them to their best advantage. I've extended my interest to include bears. Yes bears, soft and cuddly and definitely possessed of faces with personalities. Don't let any one tell you that all bears faces are the same. At any rate, bears are my latest passion and the subject of another article, another time.

Maria E. Tuzzo

LOW-FLYING HELICOPTERS

Have we licked the problem of low flying helicopters? Well, at least for the time being there seems to be an improvement.

It takes a while to get me mad, but when the low flying and hovering helicopters kept on shaking my dishes and my nerves, I had it. Together with Tom and Edith Redmerski, we managed, after some hits and misses, to get through to what seemed to be the right number in Washington. Immediate help was promised, but after a week of more buzzing by the helicopters, still nothing from the local FAA or Washington. As most of the flights were after 4:00 p.m., nobody could be reached. Finally, after another two weeks passed, we managed to get through while a helicopter was hovering overhead and the noise deafened the tender ears at the other end, five minutes later a call came from Mr. J. Glynn, FAA at Kennedy and Mr. Ron Beame from Lamon Aviation. The helicopters have been re-routed to fly over Hoboken. They were hired by Conrail to try to catch those involved in the almost daily robberies of freight trains.

If you get concerned about low-flying planes and helicopters, call FAA in Washington at 1-800-322-7873 or 1-718-917-1022 at Kennedy Airport, Mr. John Glynn. For helicopters also call Mr. Ron Beame, 201-863-7200, or their flight control at the same number, if the numbers on the helicopter start with N5. Try to get the complete number.

Ruth Conrad

GOOD HOME NEEDED
FOR TWO BEAUTIFUL
♡ AFFECTIONATE ♡
BLACK & WHITE CATS
(BROTHER & SISTER)
NEUTERED, SHOTS
CALL 795-2664

CHRISTMAS

Mistletoe is hidden
'Midst evergreens and holly
Carolers are singing
Of santas always jolly.

Childrens eyes are lighting up
Near every toy display
On their best behavior
Awaiting Christmas day.

Some folks are remembering
Christmas days of old
Recounting happy memories
Now all tinged with gold.

Families will be traveling
Near and far away
Greeting those they haven't seen
Since last years holiday.

Wrapping up the presents
That we exchange each year
Helps revive the spirit
And bring a little cheer.

The bright lights and the ribbons
Are what make it seem so gay
As we wish each other well
And a Merry Christmas day.

Maria E. Tuzzo

NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS

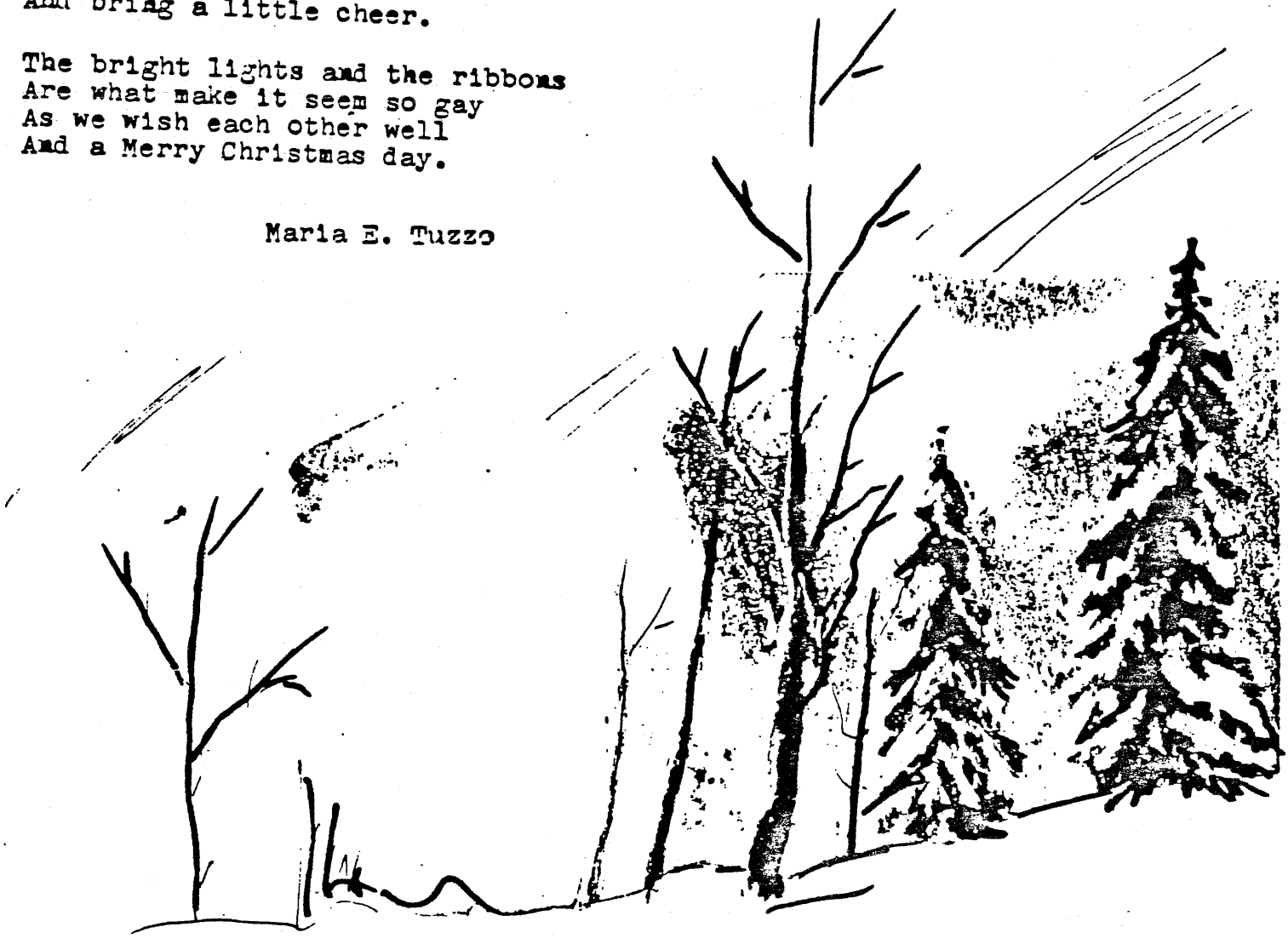
-THEY'LL BE HAPPIER, HEALTHIER PETS-

I am now a Friends of Animals Low-Cost Spaying Program Volunteer. What this means is that I can issue FoA certificates for neutering cats and dogs at very reasonable cost. The charge is $16 for male cats, $29 for female cats, $30 for male dogs, and $45 for female dogs.

I also have information on the $10 state-supported spaying program available to anyone enrolled in any of nine social programs (SSI, Food Stamps, Welfare, etc.).

Please call me for information on neutering your pets.

Anne Hart
795-2664



UNDER the chair

1) RNA voted unanimously to adopt a constitution at its November meeting. This finally gives our group a formal structure and specific rules to operate with. RNA can now testify before city and state agencies as a legitimate civic association. RNA can also incorporate as a not-for-profit organization for the purpose of raising funds for its projects. It is now necessary to adopt a set of by-laws to facilitate our constitution. The following is a list of by-laws that are proposed for adoption:

a) There will be an annual membership dues of $2.00 per person. This fee entitles the person to voting privileges in RNA and it will be valid for the calendar year of January to December.

b) RNA will hold its monthly meetings the second Tuesday of every month at the Harbor View Health Care Facility starting at 7:30 P.M.

c) RNA will hold its annual meeting on the second Tuesday of February.

d) RNA will have a checking account at the First Jersey National Bank.

e) These by-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed by a majority vote when a quorum of members is present.

f) It is suggested that when by-laws are to be changed: that the motion be made at one meeting and voted on at the following meeting.

These by-laws should be discussed and, if possible, voted on at the next meeting. There should also be discussions concerning the need for RNA to incorporate and most important, the organization of a membership drive.

2) RNA had its second annual Fall Harvest Party for the residents of the Harbor View Health Care Facility on November 14th. RNA members Marie Tresca, Jack Rea, Rose Lupo, Rose Rea, Carin Lewis and Raquel Sweeney spent the afternoon serving refreshments, entertaining and singing to 52 residents in the dining room. The residents especially enjoyed the youthful company of Bobby Lewis, Rosalene and Marielle Sweeney. RNA would like to thank Lorriane Cioffi and Madge Sweeney for baking goodies and Ruth Conrad and Maria Tuzzo for contributing cookies and cake for the affair. Special thanks to Mrs. Tuzzo for supervising and Michael Antonicello of Harbor View for arranging the details for the party. Music was provided by Regina Leyden and Michael Melchionne of Harbor View. It's a great feeling to know that it takes such a little effort to make these senior citizens feel wanted, happy and part of our community.

3) On November 14th, the case of the illegal body shop at 33-35 Griffith Street was brought to Housing Court before Judge Frances Antonin. Frank Gozzolino, the owner of the property and Frank Santana, operator of the New Neighborhood Body shop were represented by their lawyer, Mr. Colarco. The city was represented by Prosecutor Harold O'Grady. Witnesses for the city were bldg. inspector John Scafidi, environmental agent Tex Aldredge, Councilman Tom Hart, and residents Tom and Edith Redmersky, Doris Brown, Ruth and Ted Conrad and Vito Brunetti. Mr. Colarco asked for a change of venue because of the presence of the councilman who participated in the judge's appointment and the defendent wanted to call Housing Court Judge Nieto as a witness. Because of these two possible conflicts of interest, Judge Antonin recommended a change of venue. She referred the case to Judge Humphreys who will decide whether to move the case to another municipality or the County Superior court. In either case, this postponement only strengthened the resolve of all those concerned with the zoning, health and safety violations of this business, who will continue and see this case to its necessary conclusion.

4) Lest anyone suggest that the neighborhood is singling out Mr. Gozzolino unfairly, let us reiterate that RNA has always worked for the betterment of the community in all its endeavors. Therefore, we see a violation as a wrong that should be corrected no matter who has committed it. In this spirit, we urge all our neighbors to inform us of any problems in our area. It is only with knowledge of a problem that a solution can be achieved. Remember, RNA does not want to cause financial or emotional injury to anyone but is only interested in improving the quality of life for everyone.

5) Marilyn Callahan and Lucille Puhalski are refusing to leave their homes at 164 Ogden Avenue. Nine other tenants have accepted buyouts of $3000.00 each and one tenant has gotten an $8000.00 buyout to leave their apartments. James

(Continued on page 6)

UNDER THE CHAIR . . .

Cox, the landlord is proceeding to empty the building with plans to convert the twenty apartments to condominiums. At this point eight units are already empty (four of these gutted) and of the twelve units still occupied Callahan and Puhalski are the last holdouts: refusing to accept a financial buyout or relocate. Cox plans to start renovation of the building in December with plans to add a fifth floor to the roof. As we go to press, a rent increase for the building is before the Rent Leveling Board. RNA is looking into this situation to insure that the rights of the tenants have not been violated and that Cox is converting the building legally.

6) On November 3rd, the Board of Adjustment voted 5 to 1 in favor of the developer, Matbro, to build a nine story- 67 unit condo project on Central Avenue. The Waverly Street Block Association along with community support from Janet Moore, Joe Duffy, Bob Lewis, Ted Conrad and the Hilltop Neighborhood Association spoke against the hi-rise development. As we go to press, the neighborhood is planning to appeal this decision by taking their case before the City Council. RNA will continue its support of the community against this project.

7) There is no need to walk down a dark street on either Palisade Avenue or Ogden Avenue. If you notice a street light that is broken or that is not working properly, all you need to do is call P.S.E.& G. The utility will usually respond and fix the problem within two days. Call P.S.E.& G. at 653-7000 and 863-7000.

Riverview Neighborhood Association wishes all its members, friends and neighbors a MERRY CHRISTMAS, A HAPPY HANUKKAH AND A JOYOUS NEW YEAR. It is the time of year for all of us to reflect and be proud of all our efforts and accomplishments. It is when we must look forward to the new year and the task remaining before us to make our community a safe and happy environment to live in.

FOOD DRIVE IS SUCCESS

R.N.A.'s first effort at collecting non-perishable food stuffs was a success. Our members opened their hearts and hands allowing us to contribute eight bags of groceries. The charity chosen was the Salvation Army.

Representatives of the Salvation Army picked the bags up on Tuesday, November 18th. Mrs. Tuzzo, who acted as our spokesperson with the charity, found out that they help about 2300 needy families with food packages. The need is always there so contributions are appreciated any time of the year.

Mrs. Tuzzo also discovered that the Salvation Army is currently conducting a drive to collect toys, new or used (in good condition) to distribute to children. Anyone wishing to help in this effort can contact the Salvation Army at 562 Bergen Ave. 435-7355, or bring a toy to the December 9th meeting of R.N.A. and we will see that it reaches those needy children.

The Staff

Anniversary Show

Jersey City Museum

The Jersey City Museum is celebrating its Tenth Anniversary of Showing contemporary art this year with an exhibition of paintings and sculpture by fifteen Hudson County artists whose work has been exhibited at the Museum in the last ten years.

The show opens December 17th and will remain on view through February 14th, 1987. A reception will be held on December 15th from 5:30 – 7:30. All are welcome. The exhibition will travel to the Montclair Art Museum in the Spring. The Anniversary Show is made possible through the generous support of The First Jersey National Bank.

The Jersey City Museum is located on the fourth floor of the Main Library building at the corner of Jersey Avenue and Montgomery Street. The Museum is open to the public Thursday from 11:30 – 8:00. Admission is free.

At the October meeting, I mentioned that some local youths had built a skateboard ramp, only to have the city destroy it and haul it away.

Tony Wotursky, an RNA member and lead spokesman for the group, had written a letter to the Director of Public Works, only to find out that there is a problem with liability if the City builds one or allows someone else to build one on City property.

A motion was passed to help the youths with this problem and to give them financial support of $40 if the liability question could be worked out. this motion was passed in case the problem could be worked out so the youths could make use of the ramp before the weather gets too bad.

As of now, liability remains the big stumbling block. Another thing that has to be worked out is where to place a skateboard or ramp if the City will build one.

Chuck Hollowell

CONRAD'S Corner

Editor
Jersey Journal
30 Journal Square
Jersey City

Dear Editor:

At a meeting of the Board of Adjustment on the eight-story Waverly highrise, Chairman Dennis Mahoney summed up the pros and cons of the project before voting with some long drawn out profound thinking to justify his decision to approve the project.

He reasoned that since the Transport of New Jersey ventilating shaft of the railroad tunnel has always been there, it matters little, he said if a highrise or two-family houses are built on the site, not realizing that the colorless carbon monoxide fumes from the diesel locomotives are for more deadly than of hard coal burning steam locomotive smoke.

Hudson County has been called cancer alley because of the air pollution from the Holland and Lincoln tunnels which builds up from all the ninety horse power car engines idling until they can get through the tunnels. When ten thousand horse power push-pull diesels enter the tunnel during the rush hour concentrated pollution levels must be much higher at times than around the Holland and Lincoln Tunnels. It would seem that the DEP would limit any new construction within 500' of the ventilating shaft.

On the same night, right next to the Council Chamber the Jersey City DEP was having its meeting. No one at the Board of Adjustment even thought of asking anyone over to talk about the air pollution from the ventilating stack.

When the steam trains belched smoke from all the ventilating shafts around the Waverly section they blighted the area, that's why the pickle works moved in but after smokeless diesels replaced steam it looked as if the area had been cleaned up but it was in fact worse health-wise than before.

Besides carbon monoxide fumes from the Diesel locomotives, there must also be some radon gas escaping from the unlined rail tunnel with its vertical grained trap rock cracks along its length. There have been reports of numerous cancer cases around the area.

Although a grid lock on 1 & 9 and 440 last week took an hour and a half to untangle the Board of Adjustment seems to be oblivious of what's happening to the quality of life in our City now. With an increased density of three million more people in our Metropolitan area, the ease with which we are now able to drive around the City may soon be over. All the more reason for not granting any more variances in our R-2 Zoning which would increase the density of the Heights.

Very truly yours,
Theodore Conrad

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REVIEW OF 1986

Most of the efforts of our committee have been in dealing with forces that would make our neighborhood more heavily urbanized. We have taken the position that we value the small town feeling and quietness of our neighborhood, and we are trying to preserve that. Luckily, we have a powerful weapon on our side: The city zoning code designates our neighborhood, along with most of the Heights, for two-family structures. Our efforts have been towards trying to make the City uphold that law while various developers have sought to have its provisions waived or "adjusted". Among the projects we successfuly lobbied against were: Town House development on the cliffs, a 12-unit apartment building on Ogden Ave. and crowded, small townhouses on Griffith Street.

RANDY SANFORD

SAFE SKATEBOARDING – By A. Wotursky

As you may or may not know, skateboarding has turned into a major sport. Just look around and you will see people on skateboards. It serves as a mode of transportation, a source of enjoyment and a way to stay away from drugs and off the streets.

Here is a problem: skateboarders are stuck on the street because they have no place else to go. The streets can be very dangerous to unwary skaters. Just the other day a boy had a skateboard run over and split in two by a car.

In trying to address this problem, many active skaters built a suitable skating structure only to have the city tear it down.

If a structure known as "a half pipe" is not built soon, an accident will beg to happen. Soon we will be seeking your support for a half pipe, a support for safety for the future.

DOLL HOUSE – HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

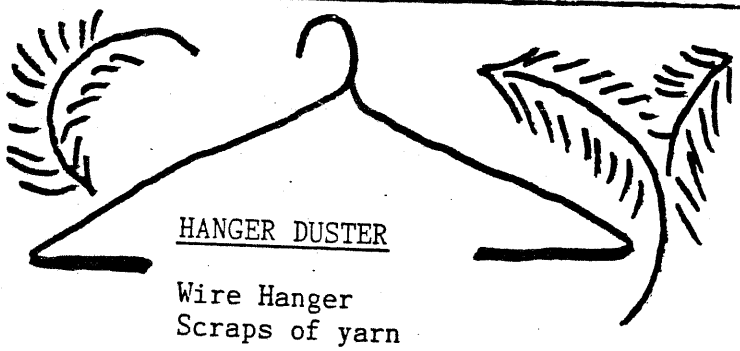
The Jersey City Museum is celebrating the holidays with a special workshop/party, the centerpiece of which is a beautiful, fully furnished dollhouse, dating from the 1920's. A workshop on the making of paper Victorian dollhouse furniture will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13th at 1:00 p.m. The workshop, for both chiuldren and adults, is open to the public. A tree trimming party with refreshments will follow and the Museum gift shop will be open with many new items for holiday giving. Admission is free.

The Jersey City Museum is located on the fourth floor of the main library building at Jersey Avenue and Montgomery Street. The Museum is open to the public Thrusday through Saturday from 11:30-4:30 and on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cynthia Sanford

GUESS WHO WE GREW UP TO BE ?

Can you guess who these two "charmers" grew up to be? We will tell you this: they are both active members of RNA



HANGER DUSTER

Wire Hanger
Scraps of yarn

Cut yarn to 9 inch lengths.
Take 3 strands of yarn, fold in half, looped end at bottom and bring open ends under the hanger then over and through the loop.
Pull open ends toward you forming a knot.
Do this all around the entire hanger.
When finished - bend middle of bottom up towards handle and pull sides together.
Fold down hook and cover with yarn.
You now have an interesting, colorful duster that is great for blinds, radiators as well as your regular dusting. You can do this watching TV or talking on the phone and kids can spend a rainy afternoon making it especially for Mom or Grandma. It can easily be rinsed out and hung up to dry.

WORD JUMBLE

wivrerive

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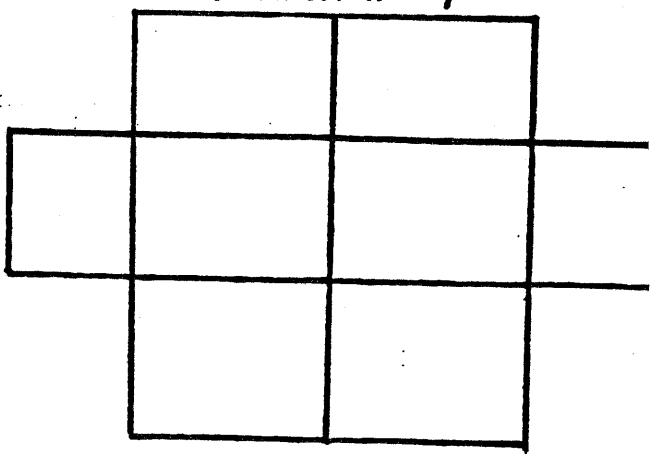
naisotiasco

PUZZLE

NUMBER THE SQUARES 1-8. NUMBE
MUST NOT BE TOGETHER VERTICALL
HORIZONTALLY



Answers to WORD JUMBLE: Riverview Neighborhood Association

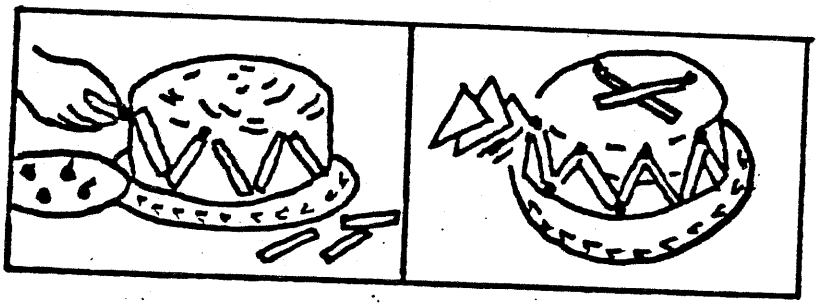
DRUM CAKE for BOYS and GIRLS

To celebrate Christmas - make a cake for the family and decorate it.

Bake cake in layers as directed on Betty Crocker Chocolate Devils Food Cake Mix package.

Frost cooled cake with Betty Crocker Fluffy White Frosting Mix.

On sides of cake press striped peppermint candy sticks at angles into icing all around cake. Set a maraschino cherry at ends of each stick. If you like, cross two candy sticks on top of cake for drumsticks.



QUOTE of the MONTH---

WOMEN ARE LIKE TEA LEAVES - You Don't Know Their Strcngth Until They're In HOT WATER

WANTED

How many times have you read a stor and thought, "I could do better tha that" or "I did something mor interesting than that". Well, now i the time to show your stuff.

We need articles for the newsletter Trying to make it interesting ever month is very difficult.

DO YOU?

Have an interesting hobby? Want t share a recipe? Do you have a craft that you could tell us about? We would like to hear all about it. Share these with us. Just put it in your own words and give it to any member of the committee.

HEAVENLY APPLE CRUMB CAKE

by Rose Scalzo

Place ½ cup butter, one cup of sugar, two eggs, ½ teaspoon vanilla, 1-3/4 cups sifted flour, one teaspoon salt, ½ cup milk and two teaspoons baking powder in a mixing bowl. Beat it well.

Pour batter into a greased baking dish or shallow porcelain pan approximately 11 x 15 inches.

Drain two cans of sliced apples and place over the batter, making an even layer. Sprinkle with a little cinnamon.

Mix and blend together three cups sifted flour, three sticks of butter, 1½ cups light brown sugar and two teaspoons cinnamon to form a soft ball. Then crumble and make little balls and place them over the entire apple batter.

Bake an hour at 350°. Cool in oven. Sprinkle with confectioners sugar.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307

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RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

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Bob Lewis
Vice-Chairman

Maria Tuzzo
Secretary

Rich LaPosta
Treasurer

Theodore Conrad
Historical Advisor

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SANITATION:
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TRAFFIC:
Michael Cioffi

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:
Randy Sanford

CRIME:
George Graul